

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated November 13, 2007 has been received and the contents carefully reviewed.

By this response, claim 52 is hereby amended; claim 55 is hereby cancelled; and claims 63 and 64 are hereby added. Accordingly, claims 52-54, 57 and 59-64 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 52-54, 59-60 and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable by Nishiguchi (U.S. Patent No. 6,368,760) in view of Moseley et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,046,849); claim 57 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiguchi in view of Moseley et al. and Deanne et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,627,305); claim 61 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishiguchi in view of Moseley et al. and Franklin et al. (E.P. Patent Application No. 0477882 A2). These rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 52 is allowable over the cited references at least in that claim 52 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “preparing a display panel having first and second pixels for displaying left-eye and right-eye image information, respectively”; “forming a structure including a polarizer, a transparent substrate and a retardation layer, including the steps of: forming a polarizer; forming an adhesive layer on the polarizer; forming a transparent substrate on the adhesive layer; and forming a retardation layer on the transparent substrate without an alignment layer between the retardation layer and the transparent substrate, the retardation layer including a chiral dopant with a predetermined pitch and the transparent substrate different from substrates of the display panel”; “forming first and second polarizing cell areas in the retardation layer corresponding to the first and second pixels over the display panel by a single light irradiation process through a mask” and “mounting the structure to the prepared display panel”. None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 52, and claims 53-54, 57 and 59-62, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner refers to element 21a in Nishiguchi as teaching the transparent substrate recited in claim 52. Element 21a in Nishiguchi is one of the two substrates of the LCD panel. In the claimed invention, the transparent substrate is a separate element different from the substrates of the display panel and is used for forming a retardation layer so that the retardation layer on the transparent substrate formed integral to the polarizer can be mounted onto a display panel in a single step. See the present application at paragraph [0037].

In addition, the Examiner refers to Figs. 6A-6C of Nishiguchi as teaching “forming first and second polarizing cell areas in the retardation layer corresponding to the first and second pixels over the display panel by a single light irradiation process through a mask” recited in claim 52. However, as best understood, Figs. 6A-6C of Nishiguchi show a two-irradiation process, not a single irradiation process, to form a retardation layer having the first regions 64a and second regions 64b by moving the photomask 61. See Nishiguchi at Col. 22, lines 15-44. For at least these reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 52, and claims 53-55, 57 and 59-62, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.


Furthermore, claims 63 and 64 are allowable at least in that they depend from claim 52, which is allowable.

Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: **11 February 2008**

Respectfully submitted,

By  _____

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